

British Society for Research into the Learning of Mathematics

Chair's Report November 2010

British Congress of Mathematics Education

There was no BSRLM day conference in the Spring Term this year, as BCME 7 took place in Manchester at Easter. BSRLM managed the research strand of the conference, with a programme made up of 31 presentations for which papers were refereed, and seven shorter non-refereed presentations, as at our regular day conferences. In general the sessions were well attended and audiences were appreciative of the opportunity to hear about current research.

However, there were considerable problems in the integration of these sessions into the programme structures of BCME, as they did not conform to the pattern of sessions elsewhere in the conference, and as a result the research sessions were poorly advertised. These issues were taken up with the BCME Organising Committee, and reported at Joint Mathematical Council.

We are grateful to BSRLM members for the considerable amount of effort which went into the preparation and the reviewing of papers for BCME, but would like to consider where this format is the best way to showcase the work of BSRLM researchers at BCME in the future, and there will be some discussion of this at the AGM.

BCME have requested a BSRLM representative on the planning committee for BCME8, and I shall be contacting members about this.

Day Conferences

The Society has held successful meetings during the year in Nottingham and Newcastle, which have been well attended with full programmes: Nottingham ~XX participants with XX sessions and X working groups, Newcastle ~XX participants with 25 sessions and 1 working group. The Nottingham conference also included the second Janet Duffin Lecture, given by Andy Noyes, from which we have had very positive feedback. Evaluations of the day conferences have been increasingly positive, and this is a great credit to the local organising teams, and to Julie-Ann Edwards' work as Day Conference Organiser.

Sue Davis, Sue Forsythe and Helen Fielding organised an excellent *New Researchers' Day* at Leicester prior to the summer meeting, with 23 participants. Seven papers were presented, and Lara Alcock, Current Reports Editor for RME ran a practical session about writing for the journal. Three of the new researchers were supported by the Leone Burton fund, offering free bed and breakfast accommodation to enable participants to stay on for the Saturday meeting in Nottingham.

We are very grateful to all of those involved in the local organisation of these day conferences.

Research in Mathematics Education (Journal)

Two issues of RME in have appeared during the year. There have been several changes in the overall editorial team. Linda Haggarty came to the end of her period as Current Reports Editor, and Lara Alcock was appointed as the new CR Editor for the period 2010-2012. Jan Winter is now standing down from her role as Book Reviews Editor, and Alf Coles has been appointed to take over this role. We are grateful to both Linda and Jan for the excellent work they have done in establishing these two areas of the Journal.

With the support of members at last year's AGM, the decision has been made to increase to 3 issues per year, and therefore to enlarge the Editorial team: Jeremy Hodgen has been appointed as the third Editor, working with Tim Rowland and Elena Nardi.

We have also been pleased to welcome new members to the Editorial Board, joining a number of existing members who have agreed to continue, to form a rolling membership in the future.

BSRLM Executive Committee

The Executive Committee has met three times during the year, as well as doing a great deal of work by email in order to ensure the smooth running of the society. I am very grateful to all the members for the exceptional amount of energy and commitment that they give. Two members come to the end of their three-year terms this year. Marie Joubert, has been publications officer, managing our website and the publication of informal proceedings, and was also did a great deal of work to lead on our contribution to

BCME7. Julie-Ann Edwards joined the Executive Committee in the new role of Day-Conference Organiser, and has established very efficient systems for streamlining the planning of programmes, and the registration procedures. In addition, Kirsty Wilson will be stepping down from her role as Secretary in order to concentrate on her family. The overall pattern of periods of office is that two new appointments will be made each year, with the Chair being elected every three years. In order to keep this in alignment, the role of Secretary will initially be appointed for one year.

	2010	2011	2012	2013
Chair	Janet Ainley	<i>New Chair</i>	<i>New Chair</i>	<i>New Chair</i>
Secretary	Kirsty Wilson	<i>New member (temp)</i>		
Membership Sec.	Paul Hernandez-Martinez	Paul Hernandez-Martinez		
Treasurer	Jeni Ingram	Jeni Ingram	Jeni Ingram	
Publications Sec.	Marie Joubert	<i>New member</i>	<i>New member</i>	<i>New member</i>
BERA SIG co-ord.	Howard Tanner	Howard Tanner	Howard Tanner	
Day Conference Co-ord.	Julie-Ann Edwards	<i>New member</i>	<i>New member</i>	<i>New member</i>

Janet Ainley, November 2010